The Notepad

IDEM's E-newsletter for Schools — Issue 4, Winter 2002

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IDEM

Radon:
A Possible Serious Threat to Your School

Compiled By: Chris Gautier, *IDEM Environmental Scientist*

Chances are you've already heard of radon - a radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer.

But what you might not have heard is that high levels have been found in a number of schools across the country. Therefore, it is important that students, teachers, and parents be aware that a potential problem could exist in their school. A nationwide survey of radon levels in schools estimates that nearly one in five has at least one schoolroom with a short-term radon level above the action level of 4 pCi/L (picoCuries per liter) - the level at which EPA recommends that schools take action to reduce the level. EPA estimates that more than seventy thousand (70,000) schoolrooms in use today have high short-term radon levels.

Radon gas decays into radioactive particles that can get trapped in your lungs when you breathe. As these particles break down, they release small bursts of energy. This can damage lung tissue and lead to lung cancer over the course of your lifetime. An individual's risk of getting lung cancer from radon depends mostly on three factors: the level of radon, the duration of exposure, and his or her smoking habits.

The only way to determine if a problem exists is to test for it. Having your school tested for radon is something you may want to discuss with your school officials. Because as real as the threat of radon is, the good news is that the problem can be solved.

"EPA's national survey of schools produced some alarming results about concentrations in our children's classrooms. Public awareness must be raised about the hazards of radon to hasten efforts to reduce the danger. All schools must be tested to determine if there is a problem, and schools must inform parents of the results. We cannot ignore this problem." Kathryn Whitfill, National PTA President.

"...high levels [of radon] have been found in a number of schools across the country."

The EPA ranks indoor radon among the most serious environmental health problems facing us today. After smoking, it is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States causing an estimated fourteen thousand (14,000) lung cancer deaths a year. Radon is a naturally occurring gas that seeps into buildings from the surrounding soil. In some cases, well water may be a source of radon. You can't see, taste, or smell radon. In fact, the only way to discover if high levels of radon are present is through testing.

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"All students have the right to expect a safe and healthy environment. Teachers and other school employees should encourage their schools to conduct radon tests and undertake all necessary corrective actions. The health of our children demands no less." Keith Geiger, National Education Association President.

The U.S. EPA recommends that all schools nationwide be tested for radon. To date, approximately twenty percent (20%) of the schools nationwide have done some testing. Some states have tested all their public schools.

How are schools tested for radon?

Testing for radon is simple and relatively inexpensive. The U.S. EPA has published guidance that is available free to schools throughout the country.

The basic elements of testing are:

- Test all frequently used rooms on and below the ground level.
- Conduct tests during the cooler months of the year.

School Testing Strategy:

- **Step 1:** Initial Testing: Take Short-term tests.
- **Step 2:** Follow-up Testing: Take a second short-term test in rooms where the initial level is 4 pCi/L or higher. Take a long-term test in these rooms for a better understanding of the school-year average radon level.
- **Step 3:** Take action to reduce levels if: The average of the initial and short-term follow-up test is 4 pCi/L or greater or the result of the long-term test is 4 pCi/L or greater.

What happens if your school fails the test?

Fortunately, even if your school does fail the radon test, the problem can be corrected. Proven techniques are available that will lower radon levels and lower risks of lung cancer from radon exposure.

Every home should also be tested. School isn't the only place that students and teachers can be exposed to radon. Since children spend more time at home, high radon levels there can pose a much greater threat to their health.

Once again, testing is simple and inexpensive. After all, radon is one health problem nobody should have to live with - at home or at school.

Call your state radon office for a list of radon device companies that have met state requirements. See our radon proficiency page for information on how to find a "qualified" radon service professional.

For more information, call Indiana's Radon Hotline at (800) 272-9723 or visit http://www.in.gov/idem/air/programs/radon/index.html.

Bug of the Month

Oriental Cockroach

By: Chris Gautier, *IDEM Environmental Scientist*

About the Oriental Cockroach

It is the dead of winter. Frost is on the windows and the warmth inside your school building is a welcome shelter from the season's biting winds. Unfortunately, you are not alone. Uninvited guests have made their way indoor and have set up camp. The "guest" or pest is the Oriental cockroach, a serious health concern for humans. They spoil food supplies, spread diseases, cause allergies, and may trigger asthma in sensitive individuals.

Pest Fact:
Roaches can invade a house during any season of the year.

Some science:
The Oriental cockroach, whose Latin scientific name is Blatta orientalis, is a member of the class Insecta and the phylum Arthropoda. They are an important segment of the animal kingdom, and have been around for hundreds of millions of years (and are here to stay). Perfectly preserved specimens have been found in amber. Our ancestors probably had to deal with them.

The Oriental cockroach, sometimes called a 'waterbug,' is distinguishable by the following characteristics: 1 inch long; dark brown to shiny black in color; like dark, humid areas at ground or below ground level; and can be found in drains, pipe chases, and sewer shafts.

We will always have to deal with pests such as roaches, because they seek the same things we do: food, water and shelter. Eliminate any of these three things and you guarantee the roaches' demise. In a school that is infested, people in charge will have to make the appropriate decisions for ridding the building of pests.

IDEM advocates the use of Integrated Pest Management, or IPM, which is an ecological approach to managing pest problems. Instead of relying on harmful chemicals, simple steps are implemented to reduce pest numbers.

Here's what you can do in your classroom:
Avoid clutter. Roaches love to hide in the dark. Put away books, loose papers, hang up coats, etc. Don't eat in the classroom, but if you do, clean very carefully and sweep up crumbs and other food remnants. If there is a sink in your classroom, keep the cabinet free of clutter and lookout for leaks. Report them immediately because roaches drink a lot of water for their body size. Don't use pesticides; they could be more of a threat than the pests themselves.

Pest Fact:
Roaches can invade a house during any season of the year.

Fun with pest management:
Have students participate in class chores, such as picking up or putting chairs up on tables so that custodial staff can sweep and mop the room. Use a sticky trap to monitor for pests and have students be pest detectives. Reward them for any pest sightings. Make a pest awareness poster competition. Discuss behaviors that will draw pests to a classroom or home.

For more information on IPM and pests in general, check out the following Purdue University web site: http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/outreach/schoolipm.

Dear Lori

Letters to the IDEM Commissioner

Lori F. Kaplan is the commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Do you have a question you would like to ask Lori? Submit your questions electronically to earthweek@dem.state.in.us and your question (with Lori's response) may appear in the next edition of the Notepad.

Dear Lori:
Our class is reading about the environment and pollution. We want to know what Indiana is doing to protect the environment. If there is anything we can do, we would love to learn!

Answer:
Indiana has many laws designed to protect our natural resources, things like our air, rivers, lakes and streams, land including prairies, wetlands, and our wildlife. IDEM helps enforce these state laws as well as federal laws. And just as importantly, IDEM and other state agencies work hard to help people learn how to live, work and play in Indiana without damaging our environment.

One of our newest educational outreach projects is teaching people about non-point source water pollution. Most people know that it is bad to dump waste, litter and toxic materials into our rivers, lakes and streams. But many people do not know that it is just as bad to leave those kinds of things on the ground. And pouring materials into storm drains is also bad for the environment. Any fluid that drips onto the ground, like soapsuds from washing your car in the driveway, or oil leaking from a car, seems to disappear. But that fluid seeps into the ground and eventually gets into our waterways. IDEM is working hard to teach Hoosiers about the importance of keeping this waste off our ground and out of our water.

To get some posters for your classroom that might help you see just how bad non-point source pollution is, call 1-800-451-6027. If you want to learn more, we have a Web site designed just for you at http://www.in.gov/idem/kids/. If you do not have a computer at home or school, you can access the Web site at your local library. Thanks for your interest. It's great to have another Hoosier on our team to protect the environment!

Drop Lori a Note!

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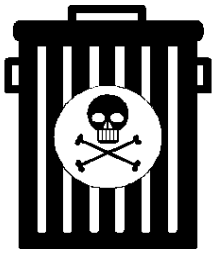


Disposal Dilemma

Hazardous Waste Disposal

By: Scott Morgan,
Monroe County Solid Waste Management District

Indiana schools are faced with a dilemma every day. The dilemma is what to do with the old paint, used motor oil, grease, unused cleaners, pesticides, insecticides, photo lab chemicals, cooking oil, and aerosol cans found in many hiding places in schools. These materials are often placed on the top shelf, in a pile in the corner, in the back of a closet, or some other place where they can't been seen. The old saying "out of site out of mind" is all too common for these types of materials in schools.

Fortunately, there is a solution to this dilemma. Schools can contact their local solid waste management district for technical assistance to properly disposal of these unwanted materials. Many Indiana Solid Waste Management Districts have Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG), Universal Waste, and electronics collection programs.

Many times the local solid waste district will recommend using existing reuse programs to dispose of materials. Used cooking oil from home economics classes can be combined with the cooking oil in the school cafeteria. Used motor oil can be recycled with the used motor oil from the school buses. Schools should check with other local schools to see if they could use some unopened or unused materials. This would save money for both schools.

If the local solid waste district can not accept these materials, they can recommend a hazardous waste contractor. Districts often use licensed hazardous waste contractors so they recommend them based on experience.

In many cases, it is more cost effective to partner with other schools to do a massive clean out of unwanted materials in the schools. It is cheaper because a hazardous waste contractor can make several stops in an area and, thus, the schools can split the mobilization and transportation charges.

"Schools can contact their local solid waste management district for technical assistance to properly disposal of unwanted hazardous materials."

For More Information:

To find the solid waste management district in your area, contact the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance at 1-800-988-7901. Or view the information on the Internet at: http://www.state.in.us/idem/oppta/recycling/swmd/contact.pdf.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) would like to take this opportunity to remind Local Education Agencies (LEA) of the ongoing concern and continued responsibility of the LEAs concerning asbestos. With the explosion of growth in new school construction, renovation, and the Charter School movement, IDEM has made a priority of communicating to LEAs across the state the environmental health and safety issues concerning asbestos-containing building materials.

Burning Question

Is the drinking water at my school safe?

A fact sheet from IDEM's Office of Water Quality

IDEM Office of Water Quality Drinking Water Branch:
Public Water System Fact Sheet: Requirements For Schools

What is a Public Water System?

A Public Water System (PWS) means a public water supply for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption, if such system has at least fifteen (15) service connections or regularly serves an average of at least twenty-five (25) individuals daily for at least sixty (60) days per year.@ A public water system is either a community water system or a noncommuntity water system.

Is my school a Public Water System?

If your facility serves water from a well and has at least fifteen (15) connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals daily for at least sixty (60) days per year, then it is a public water supply. If your school meets the former definition, it is classified as a nontransient noncommunity water system (NTNCWS). A school is not considered a public water supply if it receives its drinking water from another source such as a town or city.

Rule Citations

327 IAC 8-2-4
327 IAC 8-2-4.1
327 IAC 8-2-5
327 IAC 8-2-5.1
327 IAC 8-2-5.4
327 IAC 8-2-5.5
327 IAC 8-2-8

What are the responsibilities of a school that is a PWS?

It is the responsibility of all public water systems to provide safe, clean, and chemically satisfactory water for ordinary domestic consumption.

What contaminants should a school monitor for?

A school that is classified as a PWS must monitor for the following: total coliform (bacteriological), nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, inorganic chemicals (IOCs), which often appear as naturally occurring contaminants in source water, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as industrial solvents, and synthetic organic compounds (SOCs). Common examples of SOCs include pesticides and herbicides.

How often does a school monitor for contaminants?

Monitoring frequency is not a "one size fits all" initiative. Several factors must be considered in determining a public water supply system's chemical contaminant monitoring schedule. Monitoring frequency can vary from monthly, to quarterly, or even yearly. Each system's monitoring is based on population served, source water type, past detections, monitoring history, and vulnerability to contaminants and use of contaminant in your area. IDEM's Drinking Water Branch will determine your system's monitoring frequency based on the above established criteria. To determine your system's exact monitoring frequency, contact the Drinking Water Branch at (317) 308-3282.

What should a school do if contaminants are detected?

If your public water supply system detects any contaminant(s), contact the Drinking Water Branch for further assistance. The Drinking Water Branch can provide information on possible health effects of the detected contaminant(s), treatment options, public notices, and updated monitoring requirements for your system.

Who Do I Contact If I Have Questions?

You should contact IDEM's Drinking Water Branch at (317) 308-3282 if you have any questions. Remember that contaminant monitoring requirements will vary from system to system. The Drinking Water Branch can provide your system with a spreadsheet detailing your minimum monitoring schedule for each compliance period. You may also contact the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Money Matters

Grants for Recycled-Content Purchasing

By: Tiffany Sorge, *Indiana Department of Commerce*

Is your school or classroom in need of supplies?

Do you need new carpeting, furniture, or playground equipment for the school? The Indiana Department of Commerce provides financial assistance to promote the purchase of recycled-content products. Local government agencies, including public schools or school corporations, are eligible for up to $5,000 in matching funds to purchase recycled-content products. This Recycled Product Purchasing Grant is designed to encourage organizations to test new products and educate themselves and the public about the quality and importance of recycled-content products.

"Buying Recycled"

"Buying Recycled" can be a great way to help educate students about "closing the loop" on recycling. A "buy recycled" program in your school can be integrated into your science curriculum as you teach students about environmental science, conservation, and recycling. Recycled-content products help children learn what their recyclables can be made into, and can help mold these young people's future purchasing patterns. Buying recycled products builds markets for the recyclables you collect in your community - it creates jobs and revenue for the State as well. According to the Indiana Recycling Economic Information (REI) Study (RW Beck 2001), recycling and reuse in Indiana provides 75,000 jobs at 1,700 establishments around the State. Recycling manufacturing - making new products with recyclable materials - is by far the largest sector of this industry.

The Recycled Product Purchasing Grant can help your school purchase products it needs - from pencils made from recycled denim to carpet made from recycled fibers. These funds can also help you upgrade your playground equipment or surfacing to meet new safety regulations. Many recycled rubber surfacing products, such as recycled rubber tiles and recycled pour-in-place rubber surfacing, are safe, environmentally friendly alternatives to gravel or wood mulch surfacing. Likewise, recycled plastic play gyms, picnic tables, or benches can alleviate concerns about treated wood structures on playgrounds. Other products that may be purchased are: recycled paper, folders, pens, pencils, rulers, and notepads; recycled construction materials, such as bricks, ceiling tiles, and carpeting; and recycled furniture! (Please note that recycled crumb rubber mulch and wood mulch are not eligible for funding under this grant).

"The Recycled Product Purchasing Grant can help your school purchase products it needs - from pencils made from recycled denim to carpet made from recycled fibers."

The Indiana Department of Commerce publishes a Buy Recycled Guide and offers an online Recycled Product Showroom to help schools learn how to start a recycled product purchasing program and where to buy recycled products in Indiana. Funding for the Recycled Product Purchasing Grant is offered by Commerce on a quarterly basis. If you are interested in pursuing a grant project, please contact Tiffany Sorge, Manager of the Recycling Market Development Program at Commerce, at 317-233-1951 for more information. Applicants are asked to first submit a two or three page proposal letter describing the project. If eligible, the applicant will be sent a full Grant Application, which will be thoroughly reviewed by a team of experts. All projects are subject to final approval by the Recycling and Energy Development Board (REDB) at the appropriate quarterly meeting. The next deadlines for proposal letters are January 24, 2003 and April 25, 2003. Please visit http://www.CommerceRecycles.in.gov for more information.

Health Corner

School Ventilation Systems

By: Tami Johnson

Whether your school has a unit ventilator or a central HVAC (heating ventilation air conditioning unit) for ventilating the air, the unit should be properly maintained in order to run effectively and efficiently. A properly designed HVAC system should:

- control temperature and relative humidity to provide thermal comfort;
- distribute adequate amounts of outdoor air to meet ventilation needs of the school occupants; and
- isolate and remove odors and other contaminants through pressure control, filtration and exhaust fans.

Here is a list of items that your school can do to keep your ventilation systems in working order:

1 Ensure that outdoor air intakes are unobstructed and clear of nearby pollutants.
2 Inspect air filters on ventilation equipment and change as needed.
3 Ensure that condensate drain pans are clean and slant toward the drain so they do not hold water.
4 Ensure that heating and cooling coils are clean.
5 Gather any specification information on the controls of the unit and contact installer if they are missing from the files.
6 Check clocks, timers, and pressure gauges to ensure proper settings for night/weekends and summer/winter months.
7 Check that the outdoor air damper is within normal operating range.
8 Confirm the freeze-stat condition has not tripped.
9 Check the air economizer setting to account for temperature and humidity levels.
10 Confirm that fans operate continuously during occupied periods.
11 Check air distribution to verify that air pathways in the original ventilation system design continue to function.
12 Verify that local exhaust fans are working and are removing enough air to eliminate odors and chemical fumes.

"HVAC Maintenance is important to maintain your school's indoor air quality."

13 Measure the quantity of outdoor air per person. Follow the three step procedure below and then look at the table to ensure that you have enough outdoor air per person.

Step 1: Determine Airflow Quantity

The most common way to perform this is with a flowhood. Flowhoods measure airflow in cubic feet per minute (CFM) at a diffuser or grill. Taking the measurement is simply a matter of holding the hood up to the diffuser and reading the airflow value. Follow the instructions supplied with the flowhood regarding use, care, and calibration. You can rent a flowhood or have a certified Industrial Hygienist perform the test.

Another way to measure the outdoor air per person uses air velocity. Airflow in large ductwork can be estimated by measuring air velocity using a Pitot tube with a differential pressure gauge or an anemometer. Measure the air velocity in the ductwork and calculate the outdoor airflow in cubic feet per minute (CFM) at the outdoor air intake of the air handling unit or other convenient location.

If your system does not have mechanically supplied outdoor air, you can estimate the amount of outdoor air infiltrating the area. Estimate air infiltration by measuring the quantity of air exhausted by exhaust fans serving the area. Using a small floor plan, such as a fire escape map, mark the areas served by an exhaust fan. Measure airflow at grilles or exhaust outlets using a flow hood. Determine the airflow in ductwork by using a Pitot tube with a differential pressure gauge or an anemometer. Add the airflow (in CFM) from all exhaust fans serving the area you are measuring and enter the measurement.

Step 2: Determine Occupancy

Count the number of students and staff located in areas served by the air-handling unit (called the occupied zone). If you are estimating infiltration using exhaust fan airflow, count individuals in the area you have determined are affected by the fan(s) in Step 1. Using a small floor plan, mark the occupied zone served by the unit. In areas served by unit ventilators, an occupied zone is probably an individual classroom. In areas served by large air handling units, an occupied zone may include several rooms. A large gymnasium or other room may be served by several air handling units.

Step 3: Calculate Outdoor Air Per Person

Use the equation below to calculate average ventilation rates in CFM/person and compare the results with the information in the sidebar below.

If you need additional information on ventilation systems or you find a discrepancy when performing this checklist, checkout http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/tfs/ventilat.html.

For more information contact:

Tami Johnson
Children's Environmental Health Coordinator
Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management
Phone: (800)-451-6027, extension: 3-5628
E-mail: tsjohnso@dem.state.in.us.

Calculate Outdoor Air Per Person

Outdoor Air CFM
divided by
Number of occupants
=
CFM/person

Selected ASHRAE Ventilation Recommendations:

Area	CFM/person*
Classroom	15
Libraries	15
Auditoriums	15
Spectator Sport Areas	15
Playing Floors	20
Office Space	20
Conference Rooms	20
Cafeteria	20
Kitchen	15
Nurse Station	25

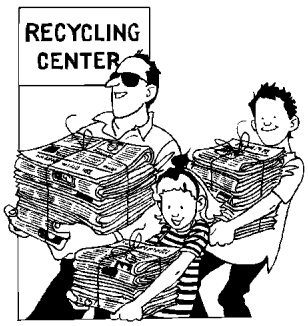
* Outdoor Air CFM divided by Number of occupants = CFM/person

Super School

Abitibi Consolidated's School Paper Recycling Program

For schools that partner with Abitibi Consolidated -- the world's largest manufacturer of newsprint -- recycling is easy as 1,2,3.

1. Atibibi, FOR FREE, places a Paper Retriever bin at any school, church or not-for-proit organization.
2. Abitibi, FOR FREE, sends a recycling truck to pick up the recycled paper.
3. Abitibi sends a monthly statement AND A CHECK! to the school for the value of the recycled materials.



Abitibi's paper-recycling program was first offered in Indiana at Lake County schools in July 2001. Within one year, more than 200 Paper Retriever bins had been placed, and more than 5 million pounds of paper had been recycled. The bins are for catalogs, magazines, newspapers, notebooks, folders, junk mail, office, fax and school paper. No cardboard or phonebooks are accepted.

Many Northwest Indiana schools participated in Antibi's "Tons of Paper, Tons of Prizes" contest. Saint Catherine of Sienna School in Hammond, Indiana, signed on just days before the contest began. Saint Catherine overcame the time restraints and placed 5th in the single bin category of the contest. Involving the church and advertising the availability of the program to the community helped this small-populated school beat out other schools with enrollment 3- and 4-times its size. The children and faculty are very proud of their accomplishments and continue to work toward an even more successful Paper Retriever Program.

Different schools sign on to the Paper Retriever program for many of the same reasons: they use the program to teach environmental stewardship, raise funds, decrease waste- hauling costs, and to supplement education regarding Reduce, Reuse and Recycle concepts. Having strong recycling coordinators at each location and giving ownership of the program to the children is key to a successful program. With support from the Lake County Solid Waste Management District and IDEM, each participating school is provided yellow 14 gallon recycling bins for each participating classroom.

Nationwide, more than 62 million newspapers are purchased everyday. More than 44 million of them are thrown away. Northwest Indiana schools are helping to reduce that number while they turn their recycling efforts into cash with the Paper Retriever program. They also divert paper from local landfills by participating in this full circle paper-recycling program. With the success and response in the Northwest Indiana area, one could say that they have given a whole new meaning to being paper-trained! For more information on this program, contact Carla Heminger, Recycling Representative for Abitibi-Consolidated at 630-514-9430.

Want to be a "Super School"?

The Notepad features environmentally conscious schools that promote environmental stewardship and work to keep their campuses environmentally healthy. Tell us why your school should be featured as IDEM "Super School" and you may be featured in the next edition of the Notepad. Nominations may be submitted electronically to schoolnews@dem.state.in.us or by mail to:

Chad Trinkle
Environmental Education Coordinator
IDEM - Office of Planning and Assessment
100 North Senate Avenue
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800-451-6027 or 317-233-9479

Recycling Bin

Help When You Need It!

By: Meggan Walker, Johnson County Solid Waste Management District

Some teachers have yet to discover this little secret in their county. It's a resource for recycling information like books and videos; it's a place where one can find expert environmentalists to talk to your class for FREE, and it can offer help in starting your own recycling program. What is this wonderful place? It is your county solid waste management district!

Each county in Indiana has a solid waste management district that is responsible for encouraging waste reduction, recycling, and proper disposal in their community. Each district handles this in different ways, but most districts offer recycling opportunities to residents, waste audits for businesses, and environmental assistants to classrooms and schools. The assistance offered to schools can include coming to your class to do a presentation on the Three R's - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, helping you start a vermicomposting system in your classroom, or participating in your school's annual Earth Day activities. All of these great services are FREE and available to those who simply ask.

As stated before, each solid waste management district is unique. Some offer services or programs that others may not. The following are just a few examples of what some of the districts have to offer:

- Bartholomew County has exciting educational opportunities for their students. Teachers can schedule a trolley ride and guided tour of their landfill or take an afternoon to learn about wetlands.
- Johnson County has a teachers' reuse center, Creative Re-Sources. Once a month, teachers can shop at the center to pick up items to use in the classroom, like paper, rulers, boxes, fabric, pencils, paint, egg cartons, coffee cans, confetti, ribbon, etc.
- Each spring, Marshall County hosts the Eco Expo for fourth grade students in their county. Students visit exhibits and participate in hands-on activities that teach about recycling and land and water preservation. Students are also treated to a performance by the Natural Song and Dance Man, Billy B.
- The East Central Solid Waste District, serving Grant, Madison, and Delaware Counties, offers in-class presentations year-round that promise to be educational and entertaining. Presentations are also available to after-school groups and boy scouts and girl scouts.

> *"...be sure to contact your local solid waste district to find out what great services they have to offer you and your students!"*

Now that you know about this little secret, be sure to contact your local solid waste district to find out what great services they have to offer you and your students! And be sure to tell other teachers about this great find!

To obtain contact information for your solid waste management district, call IDEM's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance at 800-988-7901. Or view the information on the Internet at: http://www.state.in.us/idem/oppta/recycling/swmd/contact.pdf.

About the Notepad

The Notepad is an IDEM quarterly electronic publication designed to inform Indiana educators and school administrators about possible environmental health threats in their buildings and to keep them abreast of environmental education resources.

This is a free publication intended to provide general information. Please contact an appropriate IDEM representative for assistance.

Articles may be reprinted. Please provide the Notepad appropriate credit and a copy of the reproduced text. Comments, letters to the editor, and any inquiries or questions for "Dear Lori" should be e-mailed to, earthweek@dem.state.in.us.

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